

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION



COMMERCIAL FRESHWATER FISHING LICENSE  
Nonresident Application

**Valid: Oct 1 – Sept 30**

(INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED)

PRINT OR TYPE ONLY

New Application ☐

Renewal ☐

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Eyes: \_\_\_\_\_ Hair: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Hm ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Wk ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cl ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

For Business purposes, completing this entire section is required.

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fed ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Business Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

If Renewal: Last Year Licensed: \_\_\_\_\_ License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRICE OF LICENSE IS DETERMINED BY STATE OF RESIDENCE.  
SEE ATTACHED WORKSHEET. CALL 334-242-3465 FOR PRICE INFORMATION**

**Submit:** (1) completed application, (2) check or money order, and (3) copy of driver's license  
to: Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div., Attn:  
License Sales, PO Box 301456, Montgomery, AL 36130-1456, or by walk-in or express mail  
requests: 64 N Union Street, Ste 567, 36104. Questions: (334) 242-3465 or  
[joeanne.stjohn@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:joeanne.stjohn@dcnr.alabama.gov)

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To be excluded from any list of names sold by ADCNR, please check this box [ ]

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

License Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

(1) DCNR IS NOW REQUIRED BY SECTION 30-3-194(A) CODE OF ALABAMA 1975 TO COLLECT  
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON ALL RECREATIONAL LICENSES BEING ISSUED/RENEWED.

**PRICES VARY BY STATE OF RESIDENCE. PRICE IS DETERMINED BY WHAT  
YOUR STATE CHARGES AN ALABAMA RESIDENT TO COMMERCIALLY  
FRESHWATER FISH.  
IF YOUR STATE IS NOT LISTED, CALL (334)242-3465 TO DETERMINE A PRICE.**

### FLORIDA RESIDENTS

Commercial Fishing License..... \$ 100.00

### GEORGIA RESIDENTS

Commercial Fishing License..... \$ 118.00

### KENTUCKY RESIDENTS

	Cost	x Quantity	= Total
Commercial Fishing License.....			\$ <u>600.00</u>
Commercial Gear Tags (blocks of 10).....	\$ 100.00	x _____	\$ _____
<b>LICENSE TOTAL .....</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

### ILLINOIS RESIDENT

	Cost	x Quantity	= Total
Commercial Fishing License.....			\$ <u>150.00</u>
Basket Trap.....	\$ 6.50	x _____	\$ _____
Hoop Net.....	\$ 6.50	x _____	\$ _____
Trot Line (100 Hooks) .....	\$ 6.50	x _____	\$ _____
Dip Net.....	\$ 6.50	x _____	\$ _____
Trammel Net (each 100 lineal yard*).....	\$ 36.50	x _____	\$ _____
Gill Net (each 100 lineal yard*).....	\$ 36.50	x _____	\$ _____
*Always round up			
<b>LICENSE TOTAL .....</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

### LOUISIANA RESIDENTS

	Cost	= Total
Commercial Fishing License.....		\$ <u>460.00</u>
Hoop Net (any legal number) .....	\$101.00	\$ _____
Trammel Net (any legal number).....	\$101.00	\$ _____
Gill Net (any legal number) .....	\$101.00	\$ _____
Slat Trap (any legal number).....	\$101.00	\$ _____
Set Lines, Trot, Bush, etc. (any legal number) .....	\$101.00	\$ _____
<b>LICENSE TOTAL .....</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

<sup>(1)</sup>DCNR IS NOW REQUIRED BY SECTION 30-3-194(A) CODE OF ALABAMA 1975 TO COLLECT  
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OVER →

### MISSISSIPPI RESIDENTS

	Cost	x Quantity	= Total
Commercial Fishing License .....			\$ <u>204.29</u>
Slat Basket License (each basket) .....	\$ 31.85	x _____	\$ _____
Commercial Slat Basket Tag (each basket) .....	\$ 3.85	x _____	\$ _____
Commercial Tags (each piece of equipment) .....	\$ 3.85	x _____	\$ _____
<b>LICENSE TOTAL</b> .....			\$ _____

### TENNESSEE RESIDENTS

Commercial Fishing License..... \$ 2,000.00

### TEXAS RESIDENTS

Commercial Fishing License..... \$ 180.00

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Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Regulation 220-2-.35

## **Daily Creel Limits, Possession Limits and Size Limits**

The creel and possession limits for fish in all public waters of this State, except as otherwise provided for certain State and Federally owned and/or managed fishing lakes and ponds, shall be as follows:

**Catfish** .....  
(It is illegal to possess more than one (1) catfish over 34 inches in total length taken from Alabama public waters. No blue or flathead catfish over 34 inches in total length may be transported live beyond the boundaries of this state unless permitted in writing by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.)

### Section 9-11-56.1

## **Nonresident fishing licenses — Commercial license.**

(a) The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, hereinafter referred to as "the department" or duly authorized designees of the department shall sell and issue commercial fishing licenses to residents of other states, which other states reciprocate the sale and issuance of similar such commercial fishing licenses to residents of Alabama to fish the waters of their respective states.

(b) The amount to be charged for such nonresident commercial fishing license shall be the same as is charged a resident of Alabama for such a license in the reciprocating state, but in no event shall the amount be less than the prevailing amount charged by the department of commercial fishing licenses for Alabama residents.

(c) Nonresident commercial fishing licensees shall be subject to the same rules, regulations and requirements of law and of the department as may apply to Alabama resident commercial fishing licensees. Each license issued pursuant to this section shall expire on September 30 of the year for which such license is issued.

(d) All proceeds derived from the issuance of such nonresident commercial fishing licenses shall be deposited to the game and fish fund of the department.

### Section 9-11-22

## **Commercial fishing equipment required to be affixed with tags.**

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all commercial fishing equipment used in the waters of this state shall be affixed with a tag which has the name, address, and Social Security number or tax identification number of the commercial fisherman owning the equipment imprinted on the tag.

(b) A violation of this section shall be a Class B misdemeanor.

**Section 9-11-140**

**Use of commercial fishing gear in public impounded waters and navigable streams — When, where and how permitted.**

Any person engaged in the taking, killing or capturing of commercial or nongame fish from the public impounded waters and navigable streams of the State of Alabama may use in such commercial fishing operations hoop and fyke nets, seines, gill nets, trammel nets, setlines, trotlines, snaglines and lawful fish traps. However, all such nets, setlines, trotlines, snaglines and fish traps shall conform to the rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources covering the same, who shall designate when, where and how same shall be used.

**Section 9-11-141**

**Use of commercial fishing gear in public impounded waters and navigable streams — License — Required generally.**

Prior to using any nets, seines, traps or other commercial fishing devices, as specified in this article, a person shall, except to the extent otherwise provided for in this article, have first secured a license permitting the use of such fishing gear, such license to be issued in the manner prescribed by this article.

**Section 9-11-142**

**Use of commercial fishing gear in public impounded waters and navigable streams - License - Individual licenses required; exception for certain assistants.**

It is the intent of this article that the license provided herein for the taking of commercial or nongame fish from the public impounded waters and navigable streams of the State of Alabama shall be issued upon an individual basis only, and, except to the extent otherwise provided for in this article, each person engaging in such activities or operations shall be required to purchase said license. It is hereby provided, however, that each person licensed pursuant to the provisions of Sections 9-11-141 and 9-11-142 may be assisted by one "helper" or assistant, who shall, while in the course of such assistance, be located in the licensed person's boat and/or shall be accompanied by the licensed person at all times. While engaged in providing such assistance, said "helper" or assistant shall be exempt from the otherwise applicable licensing requirements of Sections 9-11-141 and 9-11-142.

**Section 9-11-143**

**Use of commercial fishing gear in public impounded waters and navigable streams - License - Issuance; fees; records; disposition of fees.**

The judge of probate, the commissioner of licenses or such person or persons duly appointed by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources and so authorized by him to issue the license provided by this article shall issue such a license to any resident of this state complying with the provisions of this article and shall sign his name and shall require the person to whom the license is issued to sign his name on the margin thereof. The license for the use of such commercial fishing gear as authorized under the provisions of this article shall be \$100.00. A

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resident of the State of Alabama, as applicable to this article, shall be a person who has resided continuously in this state for 12 months next preceding the application for said license. The person or persons issuing said licenses shall keep in a book or on specially prepared sheets to be furnished by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources a correct and complete record of all licenses issued, which record shall remain in his office and be open to inspection by the public at all reasonable times. Judges of probate and other persons authorized and designated to issue licenses shall retain out of the money received for each license issued by them under the provisions of this article \$1.00 for each license issued, which amount shall cover services required by the provisions of this article, and shall remit the balance to the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources on the first of each month. Said judges of probate and all other duly authorized and designated persons shall report to the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources of the State of Alabama on the first day of each month the number and kind of licenses issued under this article and the name and post office address of the person or persons to whom issued, giving opposite each name the serial number of the license so issued and the amount of money remitted; provided, that if any such license is issued by any probate judge, license commissioner or any other officer who is paid a salary for the performance of his duties as such officer, he shall be required to remit the entire amount collected to the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources, except the amount charged by the issuing officer for the issuance of such license, and this amount shall be remitted to the treasurer of the county in which said license was paid.

**Section 9-11-144**

**Use of commercial fishing gear in public impounded waters and navigable streams — License — Expiration.**

Each license issued under the provisions of this article shall expire on September 30 of the year for which such license is issued.

**Section 9-11-145**

**Use of commercial fishing gear in public impounded waters and navigable streams — License — Forfeiture.**

Upon conviction of any person for the violation of any of the provisions of this article, all licenses held by any such person to fish commercially or operate or use commercial fishing gear in the public impounded waters or navigable streams of this state shall be forfeited for a period of 12 months from the date of conviction.

**Section 9-11-147**

**Marking location of and identifying fishing gear.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to use any of the fishing gear mentioned in Section 9-11-141, except slat boxes, in the public impounded waters and navigable streams of this state without marking their location by buoys or floats and identifying such nets and lines by showing the license number in plain figures upon the buoys or floats. The license number must be attached to all seines and nets, and at least one such buoy shall bear the name and address of the owner. It shall be unlawful to use slat boxes in said waters without permanently affixing thereto a metal tag stating thereon the name, address and license number of the licensee operating and using each slat box.

**Section 9-11-148**

**Game fish taken to be returned to waters; possession of game fish by commercial fishermen.**

Should any species of fish designated by the laws or regulations of this state as game fish be taken from the public impounded waters or navigable streams of this state by the use of commercial fishing gear, such fish, without injury, shall be immediately returned to the waters from whence they were taken. The possession by commercial fishermen of any of such fish shall constitute a violation of the provisions of this article, and such possession by such commercial fishermen shall be prima facie evidence of the fact that such fish were taken by the use of commercial fishing gear.

**Section 9-11-149**

**Use of fishing gear within one-half mile below lock or dam.**

The use of the commercial fishing gear as designated in this article shall not be permitted within one-half mile below any lock or dam on any waters to which this article applies.

**Section 9-11-150**

**Use of fishing gear within 100 yards of mouths of streams, etc., emptying into salt waters or bays.**

No person shall take or catch or attempt to take or catch any fish by means of any of the fishing gear designated in this article within 100 yards above or below the mouth of any of the streams, lakes, estuaries, bayous or rivers emptying into any of the salt waters or bays of this state.

**Section 9-11-151**

**Seizure, confiscation and disposition of fishing gear used in violation of article.**

Should any law enforcement officer of this state or employee of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources of the State of Alabama discover commercial fishing gear being used in violation of the terms of this article, he shall seize and hold the same; and, in the event no one within a reasonable time claims seized commercial fishing gear and the owner thereof is unknown to the person finding the same, it shall be confiscated and shall become the property of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and shall be disposed of as ordered by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**Section 9-11-152**

**Shipment or transportation of fish taken in violation of article; seizure, confiscation and disposition of fish illegally transported or shipped.**

It shall be unlawful to knowingly ship or transport or to knowingly receive for shipment or transportation any fish taken from the public impounded waters or navigable streams of this state in violation of the terms of this article; and should such fish be knowingly shipped or transported or knowingly received for shipment or transportation, the same shall be seized and confiscated

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and, upon confiscation, shall be disposed of as ordered by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**Section 9-11-153**

**Wholesale and retail freshwater nongame fish dealers' licenses.**

Every person, firm, association or corporation engaged in the buying, selling or handling of freshwater nongame fish for the purpose of resale, whether handled on a commission basis or otherwise, and every person, firm, association or corporation shipping freshwater nongame fish out of the State of Alabama on consignment or order shall be considered a wholesale dealer of freshwater nongame fish, and shall be required to pay a license of \$25.00 per annum. Any person, firm, association or corporation handling freshwater nongame, uncooked fish strictly at retail to the consumer shall be considered a retailer and must purchase a license and pay \$10.00 per annum for the same. The revenue to be derived from such licenses shall be covered into the State Treasury to the credit of the Game and Fish Fund of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Wholesale and retail licenses as prescribed in this section shall be issued in the same manner and under the same provisions as provided for other licenses in this article.

**Section 9-11-154**

**Records of wholesalers and retailers of freshwater nongame fish; inspection, etc., of records.**

All wholesalers and retailers of freshwater nongame fish in this state shall be required to keep in record form the names and addresses of the persons, firms, corporations or associations from whom said fish were purchased or received and the date or dates of such purchase or receipt. The Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources or such other persons appointed and designated by him for such purpose shall have power and authority at any and all reasonable hours to inspect and examine the books and records of any person, firm, association or corporation engaging in the business of wholesaling or retailing freshwater nongame fish in order to determine the amount of license fees due under this article and to ascertain the names and addresses of persons, firms, associations or corporations from whom or to whom the fish were purchased, received, shipped or consigned.

**Section 9-11-155**

**Applicability of provisions of article.**

The provisions of this article licensing the use of setlines, trotlines or snaglines shall not apply to resident fishermen and shall not apply to state or federal agencies conducting research on freshwater fish, nor shall it apply to nonresident fishermen who have acquired a sport fishing license of this state.

**Section 9-11-156**

**Penalties for violations of provisions of article.**

Any person, firm, copartnership, association or corporation violating any of the provisions of this article or rules and regulations based thereon shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and, upon conviction for the first offense, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000.00 and/or



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sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year; upon conviction for the second or any subsequent offense, the punishment shall be by a fine of not less than \$500.00 nor more than \$2,000.00, and/or by imprisonment for not less than one month nor more than one year. In addition thereto, all commercial fishing gear, boats, motors, implements, instruments, appliances or things of whatsoever nature used in connection with the commission of such misdemeanor, if the owner is unknown, shall be seized and confiscated and shall become the property of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and shall be disposed of as ordered by the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources. Such fishing gear, boats, motors, implements, instruments, appliances or things of whatsoever nature used in connection with the commission of such misdemeanor, if the owner is known, shall be seized and confiscated and shall be disposed of as ordered by the court having jurisdiction thereof.

**Section 9-11-55.1**

**Nonresident freshwater fishing licenses - Use of certain trotlines prohibited; inspection of permissible trotlines required; penalties.**

(a) Nonresidents fishing in the public waters of the State of Alabama pursuant to those licenses provided for by Sections 9-11-55 or 9-11-56, are hereby prohibited from taking or attempting to take fish from said waters by means of one or more trotlines having a combination of more than 100 hooks. Said nonresidents are required to inspect permissible trotlines at least once each day.

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.

**Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources**  
**Regulation 220-2-.42**

**Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and Marine Resources Division  
Jurisdictional Lines for Certain Fishing Licenses and Operations; Use and Possession of Certain Nets**

(1) For the purposes of the freshwater fishing licensing requirements of Sections 9-11-53, 53.4, 55, and 56, Code of Alabama 1975, said licenses shall be applicable to such activities as provided for therein which occur north of the below-described line, as well as below said line in those ponds or lakes containing freshwater fish. For the purposes of the saltwater fishing licensing requirements of Sections 9-11-53.1, 53.5, and 55.2, Code of Alabama 1975, said licenses shall be applicable to such activities as provided for therein which occur south of the below-described line. The line is described as follows:

Beginning at the Mississippi State line, a meandering line following U.S. Highway 90 eastwardly to its junction with State Highway 188; State Highway 188 eastwardly to its junction with State Highway 193; State Highway 193 northwardly to its junction with State Highway 163; State Highway 163 northwardly to its intersection with Interstate Highway 10 (except all of the Theodore Industrial Canal); Interstate Highway 10 eastbound lane (except that portion of Interstate Highway 10 which lies north of State

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Highway 90 Battleship Parkway, in which case the line follows the Battleship Parkway) to Interstate Highway 10's intersection with U.S. Highway 98; U.S. Highway 98 southwardly and eastwardly to its intersection with State Highway 59; State Highway 59 southwardly to its intersection with Baldwin County Highway 20; Baldwin County Highway 20 eastwardly to its intersection with Baldwin County Highway 95; Baldwin County Highway 95 northwardly to its intersection with U.S. Highway 98; U.S. Highway 98 eastwardly to its intersection with the western shore of Perdido Bay; then the western shore of Perdido Bay northwardly to the intersection of the Florida State Line and the mouth of the Perdido River.

- (2) (a) All commercial fishing operations, as well as recreational netting operations, and all gear used in any of such operations, in state jurisdictional waters north of Interstate 10 eastbound lane (except that portion of Interstate Highway 10 which lies north of State Highway 90 Battleship Parkway, in which case the line follows the Battleship Parkway) shall be subject to those laws, rules and regulations of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Provided further, it shall be unlawful to use any net (other than hoop and fyke nets) with mesh size of less than three inches (3") knot to knot with a stretch or spread of less than six inches (6") in the public impounded waters and navigable streams in the state of Alabama north of the line described in this paragraph except as provided for in other regulations or laws of this state.
- (2) (b) All commercial fishing operations, as well as recreational netting operations, and all gear used in any of such operations, in state jurisdictional waters south of Interstate 10 eastbound lane (except that portion of Interstate Highway 10 which lies north of State Highway 90 Battleship Parkway, in which case the line follows the Battleship Parkway) shall be subject to those laws, rules, and regulations of the Marine Resources Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- (3) Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, however, from September 1 to December 31, it shall be unlawful to possess a gill net, trammel net, or other entangling net aboard a boat in the Mobile Delta south of L&N Railroad and north of a line running two hundred fifty (250) yards north of and parallel to Highway 90 (Battleship Parkway).
- (4) Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, however, it shall be lawful for any person (provided such person complies with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations) to take, catch, or possess commercial or non-game fish as defined in the laws of Alabama or regulations of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, in accordance with the below stated times, places, manners, and means:
  - (a) From January 1 to September 1, in Grass Bay, Chuckfey Bay, Choccolata Bay, Gustang Bay, Big Bay John, Bay Minette Basin and Bay, Little Bay John, Big Bay Bateau, Little Bay Bateau, and John's Bend, Monday through Friday, except official State of Alabama holidays, between the hours of sunrise and sunset, by the use of nets with a mesh size of not less than three inches (3") knot to knot with a stretch or spread of not less than six inches (6"). These nets shall be constantly attended.

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(b) From January 1 to May 31, in Grand Bay, Polecat Bay, and Bay Delvan, Monday through Friday, except official State of Alabama holidays, between the hours of sunrise and sunset, by the use of nets with a mesh size of not less than the general minimum mesh size for fish other than menhaden for “inside waters” under the jurisdiction of the Marine Resources Division as provided in 220-3-.03; provided that any person in these areas possessing, using, or attempting to use, a gill net with a mesh size less than three inches (3”) knot to knot is required to be licensed and permitted under 9-11-141, 9-11-142, and 9-12-113, and shall have such licenses and permit in possession. These nets shall be constantly attended.

(5) Rule 220-2-.42, as previously promulgated, is hereby expressly repealed in its entirety.

(6) Violations of the provisions of paragraphs (2)(a), (3) and (4) shall be punished as provided by Section 9-11-156, Code of Alabama 1975 or as otherwise provided by law.

**Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources**  
**Regulation 220-2-.44**

**Prohibited Methods of Taking Fish**

It shall be unlawful:

(1) to drag any hoop net, fyke net, gill net, trammel net or seine, except a legal minnow seine, through any public waters of this State;

(2) to take or attempt to take, catch or kill any species of fish from public waters by the use of any firearms;

(3) to take or attempt to take, catch or kill any species of fish from the public waters by use of any seine, except minnow seine, wire basket, cast net, or any stationary fish trap except as otherwise provided by law;

(4) to take or attempt to take, catch, or kill any species of fish by means of any trotlines, set lines, snag lines, commercial fishing net, slat box, or wire basket within one-half mile below any lock, dam, or power house on any public water of this State;

(5) to remove or attempt to remove fish from any hoop net, gill net, fyke net, trammel net, slat trap or slat basket, or to move, set or reset any of the said fishing gear listed in this regulation between the hours of sunset and sunrise;

(6) to fish or attempt to fish in any of the public waters of this State on or from the posted lands of another without first obtaining the permission of the landowner or his agent;

(7) to fish a slat box or basket without having a metal tag permanently affixed thereto stating thereon the name, address, and license number of the licensee operating and using each slat box. *[NOTE: Act 95-214 requires a Social Security number or tax identification number in lieu of the license number.]*

(8) to fish a trotline or snagline unless the end or ends of such line within twenty-five feet of the bank shall be made up of at least six feet of untreated cotton and such line shall be attached to the bank or anchors with said untreated cotton line only. Further that all other anchors within twenty-five feet of the bank shall be attached to said line only with untreated cotton line. And further that any set line or bush hook left unattended for 48 hours may be removed by Game and Fish Division personnel and destroyed.

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(9) To filet a fish while fishing, or to possess filets of fish while on public waters except when fish are being prepared for immediate cooking and consumption; provided however, that fish may be drawn or gutted with heads left attached.

Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Regulation 220-2-.45

### **Commercial or Non-game Fish Designated**

The following shall be designated as commercial or non-game fish: Drum, Buffalo, Carp, Channel Catfish, all members of the Catfish family, Paddlefish (Spoonbill), Spotted Sucker, all members of the Sucker family including the species known as Red Horse and Black Horse, Bowfin and all members of the Gar family, and mullet taken or attempted to be taken north of the line specified in paragraph (1) of 220-2-.42 subject to the exception provided in paragraph (3) thereof.

Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Regulation 220-2-.46 (2)

### **Legal Methods and Equipment for the Taking of Commercial or Non-Game Fish**

The following is hereby designated as legal fishing equipment and methods for the taking of commercial or non-game fish in the fresh waters of this State. Any other equipment or methods used in the taking of commercial or non-game fish is a violation of this regulation.

By Licensed Commercial Fishermen

- (a) Trot Line
- (b) Snag Line
- (c) Set Line
- (d) Hoop and Fyke Nets the mesh of which is not less than 1 1/4 inches from knot to knot with a stretch or spread of not less than 2 1/2 inches after said net has been tarred and/or shrunk.
- (e) Gill and Trammel Nets the mesh of which is not less than 3 inches knot to knot with a stretch or spread of not less than 6 inches after net has been shrunk.
- (f) Slat Trap or Slat Basket made entirely of wood or plastic strips or slats in a boxlike or cylinder shape. At least 18 inches of the slat trap opposite the muzzle, including the end, shall be constructed with wood or plastic slats or strips of a width not greater than 3 inches running lengthwise or vertically of the trap and with a space between strips or slats of not less than one and one-eighth inches (1 1/8"), and provided further that any restrictions (which must be wood or plastic) between muzzle and back of trap or basket contain an opening of at least two (2) inches square to permit free passage of fish within said box or basket.

Provided further it shall be legal to use a trap made of round solid plastic, provided at least eighteen inches of the trap opposite the muzzle, including the end, shall have parallel openings a minimum of 1 1/8 inches wide running lengthwise or vertically of the trap. There shall be a maximum of three inches of solid material between the 1 1/8 inch parallel openings. The muzzle of such trap shall be constructed of netting with a mesh of at least 1 1/4 inches knot to knot with a stretch of 2 1/2 inches. Only a single muzzle may be used and the muzzle shall be attached to the trap with 100% cotton material only. There shall be a minimum opening of two

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inches square between the muzzle and the back of the fish trap. Any round plastic trap not conforming to these guidelines shall be illegal.

Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Regulation 220-2-.47

**Commercial Fishing Restrictions**

(1) Areas Restricted to Use of Nets and/or Slat Boxes -

(a) Public Waters: It is hereby made illegal for any person to place any gill net, trammel net, hoop net or fyke net in the public waters of this State, in such a way that it extends more than half way across any river, creek, stream, slough or bayou and no net shall be placed closer than 50 feet to any other net.

(b) Public Impounded Waters: It is hereby made illegal for any person to place any gill net, trammel net, hoop net, fyke net or slat box closer than 25 feet from the water's edge in any public impounded water of this State, and provided further that on the Tennessee River, or its impoundments no person shall place a net closer than 100 feet from the water's edge and no person shall place any net or slat box within 300 feet above or below any tributary of the Tennessee River.

(c) It shall be unlawful to use nets of any type for fishing purposes in all impounded public waters and tributaries thereto of Alabama in which *Morone saxatilis*, commonly known as saltwater striped bass, have been stocked. Nothing in this regulation shall be construed so as to preclude the lawful use of set lines, trot lines, or snag lines for the taking, killing or catching of commercial or non-game fish from said waters. The following lakes have been stocked: Lake Martin, Lake Jordan, Lake Mitchell, Lay Lake, Jones Bluff (name changed to R. E. "Bob" Woodruff Lake), Logan Martin, Neeley Henry and Weiss Lake. (These bodies of water were stocked prior to the original enactment of this regulation dated December 12, 1972.)

(d) It shall be unlawful to use nets of any type for commercial fishing purposes in all public impounded waters of Alabama having 3,000 or less surface acres. A list of these lakes is as follows:

IMPOUNDMENT	COUNTY
Gantt	Covington
Point A	Covington
Oliver	Tuscaloosa
Inland	Blount
Thurlow	Elmore, Tallapoosa
Yates	Elmore, Tallapoosa
Opelika City Lake	Lee
Purdy	Shelby, Jefferson
Thollocco	Dale
Oliver	Russell
Goat Rock	Lee
Columbia	Houston
Little Bear Creek	Franklin
Upper Bear Creek	Marion, Franklin, Winston
Bear Creek	Franklin

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(2) It shall be unlawful to set and leave unattended in the public fresh waters of the State of Alabama for more than seven (7) consecutive days all fishing gear, including but not limited to, trot, snag and snare lines, hoop, fyke, gill and trammel nets, and slat traps and/or baskets; provided however, that any set line or bush hook left unattended for 48 hours may be removed by Game and Fish Division personnel and destroyed.

(3) It shall be unlawful to use nets of any type for commercial fishing purposes in the area of Wheeler Wildlife Refuge between Interstate 65 and U. S. Highway 31 and in the area of Limestone Bay, during the period of October 15 through February 15 of each year.

**Regulation 220-2-.94**

**Prohibition of Taking or Possessing Paddlefish (Spoonbill)**

It shall be illegal to take or attempt to take paddlefish (spoonbill) from all public waters of Alabama by any method or to possess paddlefish (spoonbill) or any part of a paddlefish (spoonbill). Any paddlefish (spoonbill) accidentally captured shall be immediately returned to the waters from whence it came. This regulation does not apply to commercially packaged paddlefish (spoonbill) products imported from out-of-state or to paddlefish (spoonbill) cultured at hatchery operations or grow out ponds permitted through the Commissioner, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources**

**Regulation 220-2-.130**

**Prohibition of Commercial or Non-Game Fish Sales and Commercial Gear Use in Specific Advisory Areas**

(a) It shall be illegal to fish with the aid of commercial gear in any specific portion of the public waters of the State under the jurisdiction of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries as provided in Rule 220-2-.42 where there has been a fish consumption advisory issued by the State Department of Public Health on any commercial or non-game fish species. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to persons taking fish pursuant to a valid permit issued pursuant to Section 9-11-231, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) In addition, it shall be illegal to sell or offer for sale any fish taken from such waters regardless of the method by which the fish are taken.